



State of Utah  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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December 8, 1997

Glenn M. Eurick  
Director of Environmental Affairs  
Barrick Mercur Gold Mines, Inc.  
8 East Broadway, Suite 613  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

Re: Review to December 2, 1997 Letter, Barrick Mercur, Mercur Gold Mine, M/045/017, Tooele County, Utah

Dear Mr. Eurick:

Thank you for responding to our November 14, 1997 letter. After reviewing your response, the Division still has some unanswered questions regarding the routing of surface water into the Golden Gate Pit. Please address the following concerns:

1. The Division requested a map which showed the current monitoring points and future monitoring points. We needed to have Barrick show specific points of sampling. Although the map submitted showed, what I assumed, future monitoring locations (Sample Location North and Sample Location East), it didn't show where the three samples taken in February and March of 1997 were taken? One water quality sample submitted for review showed slightly elevated cyanide levels and the sampling point was listed as "Drill and Blast Yard Ramp." Could this sample location be shown on a map in relation to the historic mining tailings? The Division is trying to understand where this sample was taken so that we can understand why cyanide would be a constituent of that sample.
2. The second request for additional information stems from the response regarding the use of concrete structures to route surface water into the Golden Gate pit. The Division is looking for a conveyance which will last over time and not require any maintenance. Concrete structures are not maintenance free. Is there a place from which surface water could enter the pit by either cascading off bedrock onto bedrock or at least a location where long-term stability of the upstream channel is not at question? The use of engineered structures is not desirable to the Division if it can be avoided. Please elaborate on this subject. If these concrete structures are to be used please provide rationale for their use, design specifications and drawings, and long term maintenance requirements.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this letter. I can be reached at 538-5321.

Sincerely,

Tom Munson

jb

cc: Dave Beatty, Barrick  
Larry Mize, DEQ